

ever that may have been, the association of
Osiris with
Adonis at Byblus gave rise to a curious tale.
It is said
that every year the people beyond the rivers
of Ethiopia
used to write a letter to the women of Byblus
informing
them that the lost and lamented Adonis was
found. This
letter they enclosed in an earthen pot, which
they sealed
and sent floating down the river to the sea.
The waves
carried the pot to Byblus, where every year it
arrived at
the time when the Syrian women were
weeping for their
dead Lord. The pot was taken up from the
water and
opened : the letter was read ; and the
weeping women
dried their tears, because the lost Adonis was
found.¹

¹ Cyril of Alexandria, *In Isaiam*, lib. ii. Tomus iii.
(Migne's *Patrologia Graeca*,) lxx. 441).